Official Newspaper of Record for the City of Belleville, Sumpter Township, & the Charter Township of Van Buren

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NEELEVILE-AREA NDEPENDENT

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Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Daniel Besson takes over as Interim Fire Chief in Van Buren Township

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

Van Buren Township Fire Department Battalion Chief Daniel C. Besson, with nearly 20 years of part-time (paid-on-call) and 10 years of full-time fire experience, has been appointed temporary VBT Fire Chief.

Besson, who has been with the part-time VBT department for 18 years, took over after the former Fire Chief Darwin Loyer left his job with the township on June 21.

Besson already has a full-time job, so his appointment as chief is temporary "until we can find another full-time chief," said VBT Supervisor Paul White on Saturday evening. White said he understands Besson needs to concentrate on his full-time employment.

Interim Chief Besson has nearly 10 years of full-time service with the City of Flat Rock Fire Department, beginning in 2003. He was promoted to Shift Commander in 2008 and Lieutenant in 2011. He also serves



Interim VBT Fire Chief Daniel C. Besson

as the Coordinator of Emergency Medical Services and as the Training Officer for the Flat Rock Department.

Besson started his fire career with two years of paid-on-call service (1992-94) with the Belleville Fire Department. Besson also worked as an emergency dispatcher for Central Dispatch Network, based in Belleville. After he was elected to the Belleville City Council, he became a dispatcher for VBT, 1996-2003.

Besson began as a VBT fire fighter in 1994. He was promoted to lieutenant in 2003 and to Battalion Chief in 2009. He currently oversees the Emergency Medical Services, Fire Prevention, Public Education/Public Information, and Fire Plans and Review Divisions.

Besson also served as a volunteer VBT Police Reserve from 1996 to 2011.

Besson was lead Paramedic for the pit row team for the 2012 Detroit Grand Prix. He is a state-licensed Paramedic and certified Fire & EMS Instructor. Also, Besson is a state-certified Fire Inspector and nationally certified in Fire Plans & Examiner.

Besson is working on a master's degree in Emergency Management & Homeland Security at Eastern Michigan University. He earned his bachelor's degree in Public Safety Administration from EMU in 1999. Besson graduated from the EMU School of Fire Staff and Command in 2007.

He is married to Jennifer, a Registered Nurse at St. John Medical Center's Emergency & Trauma Center in Detroit. The family has two daughters, Abigail, 10, and Emma, 8.

Besson was one of the candidates for VBT Fire Chief when Loyer was selected. He and Loyer are longtime friends, since Besson grew up across the street from the Loyer family in Belleville.

The VBT administration has not released any official statement on the details of Loyer's separation from township employment.

GARDEN WALK JULY 22

Independent photo by Bob Mytych Elaine Gutierrez, a member of the Belleville Area District Library Board, walked the Strawberry Fest parade route on June 16 with a promotion for one of her favorite events: the annual Garden Walk, which will be held on July 22 this year to benefit the library.

Belleville DDA to make offer to Minimart for streetscape wall repair

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

The Belleville Downtown Development Authority wants to repair the damaged streetscape wall in front of Five Points Minimart, but members want to make sure protection is put in place so they don't have to keep paying for repairs in the future.

The wall has been damaged, probably, by pickup trucks backing into the wall in the small parking lot and their hitches or bumpers inadvertently hitting and breaking parts of the wall.

At its June 20 meeting, the DDA voted unanimously to make an official presentation of a plan to Mo at Minimart explaining how they would like to repair the wall and put up a protection system to protect it in the future. Spicer engineers will come up with specifications that would have the barrier as attractive as possible.

But, in order to do that, the DDA needs another foot of easement from Mo, which he has been reluctant to grant.

After Mo gets a look at the specifications for the protective barrier, he has 10 days to decide if he'll grant the easement. If not, the DDA will demolish the damaged portion of the wall and put a curb back in place, the way it was before the streetscape was installed.

Mayor Kerreen Conley, who is a voting member of the DDA, said the DDA will find out Mo's decision on the easement at the next meeting and decide what it wants to do. It will then be able to determine the total cost of the project.

In a memo to the DDA, Coordinator Carol Thompson explained the situation. She said the stones on two columns and on both sides of the wall are damaged and the limestone coping is broken and has been pushed off the foundation.

David Vallier of Spicer suggested bollards or a low guard rail should be placed on the back side to protect the wall.

Thompson reported there is not space within the easement to add bollards or railings and the property owner does not want bollards or railings placed on his property.

(continued on page 2)

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Belleville DDA

(continued from page 1)

"Without protecting the wall from vehicles backing into it, continued damage and repairs are expected," Thompson wrote.

The DDA has an estimate from Davenport Brothers of \$4,650 to repair the wall and an estimate from Spicer of \$2,625 for demolition and curb installation. There was no estimate for the protective system since the kind of barrier has yet to be determined.

Thompson said Davenport recently removed the limestone caps which are stored at the DPW yard. She said in November or December, the first piece of the wall fell off, but it was too late in the

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season for repairs. Then, over the winter there were many more hits.

Spicer suggested 5-6" diameter concretefilled steel bollards on the back side between the new curb and the business parking lot to protect pedestrians, the sidewalk, and a street light pole. Installing five bollards would be an additional cost of \$200 each or \$1,000.

Thompson said the addition of the bollards would be the property owner's choice since with removal of the wall that section of the easement would be terminated and the land returns to the property owner.

At the beginning of the discussion, DDA member Gary Snarski said he has been talking with Mo about the situation. Snarski said Mo offered to pay for half of the repairs, but the DDA wanted to pay for it all and put in the barrier, if Mo would give them an easement.

Tom Fielder, who was attending his first meeting after being appointed to the DDA, said people have been enjoying the walls. He said those seats were full during the festival and the car shows and he would hate to see them taken away.

He said the DDA should tell Mo, "We're not asking you to pay half. All we need is a foot of easement. That's an incentive."

"It's encouraging that he likes the wall," said Mayor Conley, noting that has not always been the case. "Bollards are not my first choice," she said, adding that they would be distracting to look at.

"We would hate to see that wall go," she



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SECOND FRONT PAGE

District Library: In addition to bond, new lib. needs operating mills

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

During the June 12 public hearing on the 2012-13 proposed \$963,137 budget by the Belleville Area District Library Board, questions from the audience brought out some previously undiscussed issues.

While talking about the \$20,000 set aside annually for the architect, Belleville resident Mike Renaud asked if there are costs relating to a new site in the budget.

"You are spending virtually everything

you take in except for \$1,600," Renaud said. "You want to build something that quadruples or quintuples the space you have and you're not going to have any additional revenue."

"That's where the bonds come in," replied board chairwoman Mary Jane Dawson.

"No, bonds can't fund operating costs," Renaud said.

"We are also going to have to increase the millage if that happens," said Treasurer Elaine Gutierrez.

"So there's going to be another millage on top of the 0.7 mills, is what you're talking about?" Renaud asked.

"Yes, the 0.7 mills just cover the operating costs for this building," Dawson replied.

When Renaud asked just what that millage might be for a new building, Library Director said libraries tend to have

operating budgets running between one and two mills, depending on the level of service.

"Is all this going to come up when you go for the bond issues?" Renaud asked.

"Yes," Director Green said. "Because there is no point building a building if you can't operate it. The 0.7 mills was the minimum amount allowed in the agreement with the three communities to operate this facility. It was never meant to be a permanent final amount."

"That is why I was wondering how close this \$900,000 you're spending is regular ongoing, versus regular ongoing plus new building related costs," Renaud said.

Green said the incomes keeps dropping and when the library agreement was written three to four years ago, the .07 mills bought in more money.

"We're lucky we haven't spent it all," Green said.

The budget figures show total projected millage income for 2012 of \$862,437, broken down by the three communities as:

- Van Buren Township, \$604,070 (down from \$637,961 in 2010);
- Sumpter Township, \$217,407 (down from \$254,228 in 2010); and
- City of Belleville, \$40,960 (down from \$46,487 in 2010).

The total millage income in 2010 was

\$938,676.

Financial consultant Ron Traskos said there is a little bit of a slide on the millage revenue and going forward to 2013 there is still another 5% slide.

"We haven't quite seen that bottom yet," Traskos said. "The slide is slowing down and hopefully our 2013 will hit bottom and we'll start leveling out and going the other way."

The beginning fund balance for 2012-13 fiscal year, which begins July 1, is \$664,581, with an estimated \$16,337 not expected to be spent being added for a year-end fund balance of \$680,918.

Of that, \$431,219 is committed to the following fiscal year, with \$249,699 uncommitted funds. (Half of the millage income collected each year is committed to the following fiscal year.)

Vice chairperson Christina Brasil asked about the plan to add in a section in the budget to show building costs.

Traskos, who had said he would be putting together the section for this meeting, said, "All those expenses are being charged through your general fund a we incur, which is proper."

He said In June he will do an Excel Spreadsheet on the architect, attorney, planning, etc. and will create a working file to support those numbers.

"When your auditors come in, I'm going to present that file to them," Traskos said.

He said when he does the bond fund, he'll have it all documented for the bond attorneys, so they can put the numbers in there.

"Secondarily, even when you go through

your actual construction phase, which will probably stretch over a year end, you'll see those accumulated costs. What we're going to create won't affect your operating budget, but it will show up in the top layer audited statements," Traskos said.

It was noted that the income from penal

fines went up from \$35,000 in the proposed amended budget for 2011-12 to \$40,000 in the proposed 2012-13 budget.

Director Green said penal fines are

Director Green said penal fines are distributed on a countywide basis.

"Basically, if you're caught speeding in Sumpter, Belleville, or Van Buren, we get a little bit of that money," Green said.

"But we're not encouraging anyone to speed," Dawson said.

During the regular meeting of the district library board that followed the public hearing, the board unanimously approved the amended 2011-12 budget and the proposed 2012-13 budget.

Absent and excused from the regular meeting were board members Mike Boelter and Joe Monte.

District Library Board to host expert on library space in September

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting June 12, the Belleville Area District Library Board voted 4-1 to pay up to \$1,900 to bring library space expert Anders Dahlgren to Belleville to meet with the community sometime in September.

Board members Michael Boelter and Joseph Monte were absent from the meeting and excused.

Board member John Juriga voted against

the plan, explaining the board's architect Dan Whisler understands the language of the updated report written by Dahlgren and could discuss it with the board, instead of spending all that money for airfare, lodging, and meals for Dahlgren, who is based in Normal, IL.

Dahlgren, who Library Director Deb Green said was an international expert, was hired by the board at its April 10 meeting at a cost of \$2,970 for 22 hours of work to provide an update on space needs for the new local libraries being planned.

He originally wrote a 2005 report on the space needs of the Fred C. Fischer Library, now the District Library, which forecast a need for 47,100 square feet of library space.

Since 2005 space needs have changed, since the tri-community library agreement

called for two buildings -- a main library and a satellite, census data projects a slight increase in library users, and other considerations.

Director Green gave a presentation on Dahlgren's 58-page Library Space Needs Revisited report, with 28 pages of memos.

The updated recommendation from Dahlgren is for more space for the Belleville area library than he recommended in 2005.

The Recommended Gross Building Area for the main library now is 48,158 square feet, which is between the optimal 57,158 square feet and a moderate recommendation of 46,402 square feet. A low space allocation is 44,195 square feet.

Dahlgren recommends the satellite branch to have from a low space allocation of 5,914 square feet to an optimal size of 7,772 square feet.

Green said the library may be looking at a smaller book collection, but more floor space will be needed for shorter shelving to provide easier access to E-books. She also said the library will need double or more the amount of computers needed 10 years ago.

Green said Dahlgren would be better at explaining his report since he is an outside expert with no vested interest in this library

She said people might think that the architect would make more money if the library is bigger, but if it is bigger Dahlgren doesn't make more money.

"Anders can explain the thought process and be able to explain his numbers," Green said, "considering if we do this and we build this, this is a huge financial undertaking for the community.

"The biggest investment a library will ever make is its building," said board secretary Joy Cichewicz.

Cichewicz said she went through Dahlgren's report and it was "glaringly obvious" what he was saying. "The Ebooks are not going to make that much difference" in reducing the size needed for the new library, as suggested by public comment in the past.

In other business at the June 12 meeting, the board:

- Approved a job description for a parttime library custodian at pay of \$8-\$9 per hour. The former custodian Paul Haven resigned after the death of his wife;
- Heard board member Juriga report on the rusted posts at the entryway to the library. He obtained price quotes and recommended Blue Ribbon Construction at \$750 per post to repair four posts that are rusted through. Juriga said Judge Oakley at 34th District Court agreed to send a professional painter

who needs to do community service to wire brush the rust and prime all the railings in front of the building; and

• Heard Juriga say he went to a solar energy meeting in Ypsilanti and, "We really need solar energy at our new library. It will be a cost savings in the future."

Belleville Area District Library now has four e-Readers to check out

Never used an eReader, but curious about the experience? Reader to buy an eReader but want to be sure you invest in the best device for yourself? Now you can try one before you buy it.

The Belleville Area District Library now has four eReaders to check out: The Nook Simple Touch, the Nook Color, the Kobo Touch, and the Kindle.

Each device is preloaded with a variety of new and classic works. Chargers and instructions will accompany the eReaders upon checkout.

The loan period for each device is three weeks. A fee of \$1 a day will be charged for late returns

The library is located at 167 Fourth Street in downtown Belleville, 734-699-3291, www.belleville.lib.mi.us.

Belleville Area Independent/June 28, 2012

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

OPINIONS

<u>Editorial</u>

City of Belleville sure is a busy place these days

The City of Belleville offers so many family activities in its downtown on the lake. People are starting to notice.

The big car show on Main Street continues to draw a crowd on Mondays. The Belleville Area Council for the Arts puts on art shows and their own car show, plus ArtAffair on Main and the Art Colony. Then, there's the fishing derby and monthly Sunday dinners to raise funds for their dreamed-for art center on Main Street.

The city Parks and Recreation Committee has kite flying fun and special things at the parks and keeps on planning.

The Strawberry Festival, put on by the Chamber of Commerce, festival committee, and churches is known far and wide and we still have fond memories of this year's event.

The Downtown Development Authority continues to support the local merchants and the renovated DDA reader board is the Town Crier, with late-breaking announcements out for all to see as they drive by or bide their time at the lights.

I've heard officials from a nearby community wish their community put on as many big events as the small community of Belleville.

Other area municipalities have their events, to be sure, but not as nonstop as Belleville's events these days. One local resident said it was almost too much for her. She's going to have to pick and choose her events, we guess.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

Rowe's Produce Farm has announced that the strawberry and pea you-pick-it seasons are over for 2012.

In their online report to customers, they thank everyone for their patronage in one of the most challenging seasons they have

"The mild winter, HOT weather in March and FREEZING weather in April caused us to have one of the earliest seasons in our history," the report said. "It also resulted in some yield loss and more weeds than we normally have. We are sorry that there were some customers that did not get all the berries they had planned on but as you know we do not manufacture the berries, we grow them."

The business is closed until the farm market opens when the corn is ready in early July.

We received an email from a Sumpter reader that said:

"OK, my jaw dropped when I read the paper about the officer saying he was at a private rd. named Coyote off of Bemis. Just two days ago, I was driving from the Pet Resort toward Sumpter Rd. when I saw this dog crossing the road. As I got closer and passed it – it was just roaming on the side of the road – I noticed it was a Coyote! I could not find Coyote Rd. on the internet, so wondering if he was investigating a sighting. Maybe he doesn't want to stir up anyone – leave them alone, and they will leave you alone. Just a wild thing trying to survive ... interesting."

....жж

Sumpter Township fire fighters had some problems and unionized recently. Van

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Deadline for ads 1/2 page or smaller is Noon Monday, and all advertising larger than 1/2 page is Noon Friday, with the exception of certain holiday weeks.

Classified ad deadline is Noon of every Tuesday.



Buren Township Fire Department, which already is unionized, had some problems recently, but are fixing them.

On Monday I had two calls from Belleville Fire Fighters who said they want to organize a union, but city officials are resisting.

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said on Tuesday that the city is cooperating. The city's labor attorney filed the legal paperwork for a vote and the notices were posted by June 15, as required. The voting will be done by mail and the ballots were mailed out June 22.

The completed ballots are to be mailed to the Michigan Employment Relations Commission (MERC) office in Detroit by July 12 and they will be counted at 10 a.m. July 13 by MERC, Kollmeyer said.

"We could have asked for a hearing, but we didn't," Kollmeyer said, pointing out the city was cooperating with the wish of the fire fighters for a vote.

The residents in the local communities love their fire departments and enjoy their swift arrival on the scene when summoned.

I remember former VBT Fire Chief Al Smolen telling me that it is great being a fireman because people are always happy to see you arrive. On the police side of public safety, sometimes people are not so happy to see them arrive.

Former School Supt. Tom Riutta recently told me that boa constrictors are

a menace in Florida these days. He said those snakes are not native to Florida and people obviously dropped off some pets to fend for themselves. The snakes have no predators, so they are growing big enough to eat children.

The Riuttas winter in Smyrna Beach and

Bonnie said the boas grow as big and round as a man's thigh.

Tom said he wants to move far enough north to get away from those boas and the alligators that also hang out in his neighborhood in the south.

My son Jim, who is my right hand at the newspaper, was hospitalized Sunday night with kidney failure and not available to help put out this week's paper. What to do?

We were relieved to find that another newspaper agency agreed to loan us their expert in such things digital – at extremely short notice. We are very grateful.

Police Chief Gene Taylor, who called to check on Jim, understood completely that another newspaper stepped up to help. "It's kind of like mutual aid," he said, using a public safety term. It is.

Jim is doing much better, thank you and was due to get out of the hospital or Wednesday – past our deadline for this week's paper.



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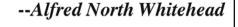
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Letters

Sharing in others lives make life worth living

To the Editor and People Who Love Life:

Things that make me smile is the solar sunflower that I received for my birthday. When I look at it, I think about how blessed I am to have friends who care.

I smile when I remember the friends who came to help me celebrate my big birthday – and it is a big one! The joy that was shared last weekend is unbelievable. Sharing in each others' joys, tears and smiles, makes life worth living. Young people, think about this when you think you have nothing to live for.

I thank the little ol' cake baker who brought my dream to life – a cupcake cake in three tiers. It looked good and tasted even better. Victoria of Sweet Chateau, thank you for a yeoman's job.

I smile when I think about my friends who "surprised" me by actually showing up and singing happy birthday to me. Of course, there were tears – mine. Thank you to Pat and Gary Marshall who shared their lovely home for the affair. I'll never forget the extra brown hot dogs, which I love, and the care to make sure they were just right.

What I am trying to convey to each of you is to enjoy each day of your life, share your smiles with someone who may have had a bad day. Share your hello when you meet someone who may cross your path.

In other words: Live your best life!

Marian Caldwell Van Buren Township

Think wisely and do the right thing: Vote

To the Editor and Voters:

It is that time of the year when campaigners are stomping the ground to get your vote. But think about where were they when no election was in sight?

Sometimes change is good, sometimes change disappoints – but we as voters have the choice in our hands! Think about the candidate who is responsive to you and finds the answers through their diligence – that shows that they still appreciate your vote.

Remember to vote in local elections as well as the presidential election. Local elections affect you in your hometown and are immediate. Solutions for local problems

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can be found in the people we elect in our township, city, and school boards.

With that in mind, two people who I think are responsive to the needs of the community are Linda Combs, who is devoted to the betterment of the seniors and who has spent many years at September Days making seniors feel that they are important by keeping entertainment, information, and physical education available. She is also in favor of returning "Senior Spotlight" to the community channel. You would be surprised how many people ask the question, "What happened to Senior Spotlight?"

Sharry Budd has been a faithful and accountable treasurer for many years —I think she is doing a good job. "If it ain't broken, don't fix it."

As I said previously, sometimes change is good; sometimes change disappoints. Think wisely and do the right thing – vote.

Marian Caldwell Van Buren Township

Thanks for support of Tiger Football Boosters

To the Editor:

On behalf of the BHS Tiger Football Booster Club, we would like to thank all the individuals and businesses that supported our bowling fundraiser this Spring. Your time and generosity enabled us to purchase some much-needed equipment for our boys!

Thank you to the families who put together such clever and fun raffle baskets. They looked amazing! To the merchants who donated their services, gift certificates or discounts, we thank you for truly being a part of the community! Please proudly display the BHS Football supporter decal on your door or window so the community can patronize your business!

If you did not get a chance to assist in this bowling fundraiser, no worries. We will be having another in the fall. For more information, please contact us at Tigerboosters00@gmail.com.

Again, our deepest thanks. We can't wait for an exciting season in our new facility! Go Tigers!

Sincerely, BHS Tiger Football Booster Club





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Belleville Area Independent

Diane Madigan responds to library chairman's published letter

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

During the Public Comment agenda item at the June 12 meeting of the Belleville Area District Library, Van Buren Township resident Diane Madigan addressed the board and board chairman Mary Jane Dawson with the following remarks:

"At other meetings you said you do not respond to what is written in the newspapers because you have no control. I would just like to comment on something that was written by Ms. Dawson.

"She said it was to correct information that was incorrectly stated by a resident of Van Buren Township during the May meeting. I would like to state exactly what I did say at that meeting.

"I asked, "I'd like to know what the impact is on the DNR site with the FEMA flood zone. On the map it looks like it's in the flood zone.

"I did not state it was in the flood zone. I also stated: The house that isn't on the DNR site, appears to be in the flood zone too, so that would immediately decrease in value, I would assume, because you have to have flood insurance.

"You, I guess, contacted the architect and he stated a bunch of, I presumes and he's not sure's, and not necessarily sure what impact that has, but it may have a bearing on insurance rates, etc. I presume it may have to do with confirming the flood plain boundary elevation which may have an impact on their

"Again, I was just asking if you had contacted anyone. I would have hoped you would have contacted Van Buren Township who is actively trying to file LOMAs and LOMARs and trying to get those people out of the green zones that are touching these properties.

"I went back to that map [and at that point she distributed copies of the map to the board and members of the audience]. Even though the architect states it doesn't, it still looks to me like it's touching the green zone and I suggest you contact Van Buren Township. They are actively trying to get people out of these flood zones," she concluded.

Editor's Note: Madigan refers to a letter by Dawson printed in a recent edition of the Belleville Lake Current in which Dawson criticizes the *Independent* for quoting Dawson's remarks on the flood plain at the May library board meeting. A tape recording of the meeting shows Dawson misrepresented Madigan's remarks in her letter.

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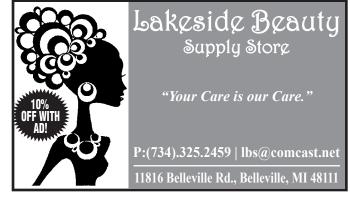
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Obituaries



Margaret "Peggy" Jean Weise

<u>MARGARET 'PEGGY' JEAN WEISE</u>

(August 21, 1953 - June 19, 2012)

Margaret "Peggy" Jean Weise, age 58, passed away at home Tuesday, June 19, 2012. She was born August 21, 1953, in Garden City, MI to Rex and Veronica Morris. Mrs. Weise was a member of Grace Baptist Church in Belleville. She enjoyed several different careers during her life including the Veterans Hospital, the Milan Correctional Facility, and most recently, she worked at Sam's Club in Ypsilanti. She was an avid crafter who enjoyed scrapbooking and photography, and was a very talented seamstress. Peggy was especially devoted to her family and friends.

She is survived by two daughters, Erin (Jason) Brashear and Bridgette (Bill) Bell, six grandchildren: Andrew Weise, Tyler Weise, Hannah Bell, Cameron Brashear, Braelin Bell and Chesney Bell, and is also survived by her father, Rex Morris, and two sisters, Sandy Armstrong and Roxanne (Dan) Dildine.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Charles "Chuck" Weise, and her mother, Veronica Morris.

Visitation was held at David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville, MI on Monday, June 25, 2012 from 2PM to 8PM. The funeral service was held Tuesday, June 26 at 11:00AM, with Pastor Robert J. White officiating.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society and would be appreciated by the family.

Please sign Peggy's on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to cherish at www.davidcbrownfh.com



Carol Jean Kirby

CAROL JEAN KIRBY

(November 19, 1932 – June 22, 2012)

Carol Jean Kirby, age 79, of Belleville, formerly Grand Blanc, passed away Friday, June 22, 2012. Funeral services were Monday, June 25, 2012 at Sharp Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 6063 Fenton Road, Flint. Burial in Crestwood Memorial Cemetery, Grand Blanc. Those desiring may make contributions to Friends of Michigan Animals, 51299 Arkona, Belleville, MI 48111.

Carol was born November 19,1932 in Princeton, IN, the daughter of Clyde and Lillian Alice (Hull) Pavey. She graduated from Terre Haute High School. She married Arthur J. Kirby June 30, 1951 in Flint and he preceded her in death April 13, 1991. Carol retired as a medical secretary working for Dr. Richard Michelson, Dr. Nelson Schafer and Dr. Donald Nitz. She had resided in Belleville since 2003 coming from Grand Blanc.

Surviving are: 3 children, Steven and wife Christine Kirby of Lexington, MI, Sharon Totten and her friend Neal Robson of Belleville and Richard Kirby of Columbia, TN; 4 grandchildren, Dawn and husband Dennis Jinsky of Novi, Todd and wife Heather Kirby of Flower Mound, TX, Tami Goins of Belleville and Alyssa Kirby and fiance' Garey Boyd of Grand Blanc; 9 great-grandchildren, Kelsie, Kaylie, Alison, Chloe, Noah, Samuel, Emma, Colby and Lola; special friend, Vivian Ingram of Belleville. She was also preceded in death by her father Clyde Pavey; mother Lillian and step-father Chuck Hamilton. Online tributes may be posted on the obituaries page of www. sharpfuneralhomes.com.



Elizabeth Smith

ELIZABETH JERLINE SMITH

(July 5, 1939 - June 21, 2012)

Elizabeth Jerline Smith, age 72, passed away at home, June 21, 2012. She was born July 5, 1939 in Gate City, Virginia, to the late Harry and Ora (Oaks) Hammond.

She enjoyed crafts and liked to go bowling and fishing. She especially enjoyed watching the family in the drag races. She enjoyed gardening the most!

Elizabeth is survived by her loving husband of 40 years, Franklin Reed Smith, three sons, Timothy Dale (Lucinda Ruth) Rhoton, Kenneth Allen (Michelle) Rhoton all of Romulus, MI, Stephen Brian (Allison) Smith, of Pontiac, MI and daughter, Elizabeth Andreya "Andie" (Allen) Bell of Clinton, MI, 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren, also survived by a sister June Hartsock of Evansville, IN and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by 3 brothers, William, Donald and H.G. and a sister Doretta Alvis, also her beloved dog "Jingles".

Visitation was held Sunday, June 24, 2012 from 2PM to 5PM with a funeral service following at 5PM.

Please sign Elizabeth's on-line guest book and share a story with her family at www. davidcbrownfh.com .



RICHARD M. GORNEY

(September 7, 1931 – June 22, 2012

Age 80 of Pittsford, MI. Born in Belleville, son of Jerome and Genevieve (Chudzinski) Gorney. Veteran of U.S. Air Force, Korean War. Survived by 4 children, 3 brothers, 4 sisters, grandchildren, great-grandchildren. Farnham Funeral Home, Temperance, MI.

JOSEPHINE E. BASTIANELLI

(April 21, 1933 - June 21, 2012)

Josephine Elizabeth Bastianelli, age 79. Survived by daughter April Dawn (Bruce) Marcotte, son Wayne Bastianelli, 5 grandchildren. Cremation rites have been accorded. David C. Brown Funeral Home.

VALERIE VICTORIA RAYMOND

(September 1, 1951 - June 20, 2012)

Age 60. Survived by husband of over 40 years Bernard Raymond; daughters Shiela and Jaime; two grandchildren; mother-in-law Ellen Raymond; brothers Jimmy and Jerry Bryson and sister Kelley. Brown Funeral Home.

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Sumpter group home worker pleads guilty in death of resident

By Rosemary K. Otzman Independent Editor

On June 11, while the jury was being selected at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit for the Manslaughter and Vulnerable Adult charges against a group home worker in Sumpter Township, the trial was cancelled.

Sumpter Township Police Detective John Toth said before the trial could begin, Bruce Odell Williams, 34, of Detroit pled guilty to Homicide / Involuntary Manslaughter in the Oct. 2, 2010 death of Robert Egan, 38, of Monroe who had been in his care.

A second charge, Vulnerable Adult Abuse, apparently had been dropped, Det. Toth said, adding the case now goes into the sentencing phase.

Homicide/Involuntary Manslaughter is a 15-year felony. The Vulnerable Adult Abuse could have brought four years in prison.

The case began when Sumpter Police received a 911 call at 8:44 a.m. Oct. 2, 2010 for "a male down" who was unresponsive and cold in the hallway of Christ Centered Home in the 22000 block of Clark Road.

When Officers Roulo and Buccelato arrived they found Eagan dead on the floor. Det. Toth said the "group" home was to care for just the one patient, who had severe mental issues, as well as being developmentally disabled.

Officer Buccelato found "something amiss" in the situation and called for Det. Toth to take over the investigation. He interviewed all four workers that had been there for shift change and followed up with interviews of everyone involved.

"The person supposed to be providing care, unfortunately, went to bed," Toth reported.

Toth said Eagan got up during the night, went to the refrigerator and ate a raw pork chop 3"x3" in size, which lodged in his throat, blocking his airway. He was found in the bathroom and, according to the body position, had been dragged into the hallway.

When police arrived, the body was in full rigor mortis, indicating he had died sometime during the night.

Toth said the prosecutor used the phrase "but for the fact he was sleeping..." in approving the arrest warrant for Williams.

The investigation was completed Jan. 21, 2011 and on Feb. 17, 2011, Williams was arrested.

But, when Toth brought the warrants to court on March 24, 2011 before Judge Bryan Oakley, "We lost all the key witnesses" who had relocated. Judge Oakley said they could not continue without the witnesses.

So, Toth obtained investigative subpoenas and spent the summer locating the missing witnesses. After he found them, he went to their residences and rousted them out of bed early in the morning to make sure he could serve his subpoenas.

On Sept. 16, 2011, the warrants were reissued. On Feb. 13, 2012 the preliminary exam was held at 34th District Court and Williams was bound over for trial at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit. After selection of a jury, the trial was due to begin June 18.

Toth said the situation of mental health care in Michigan is terrible and, since many mental institutions closed, people are put in group homes where caregivers have minimum training and are paid low wages with no insurance or benefits.

Toth said Williams didn't want to work the night shift, but he had no choice and no

other job.

Birthdays

June 17 – Dennis Vieira

June 26 - Marcy La Framboise

June 27 – Jeff Schonscheck

June 29 – Jacob Duzan

June 21 – Krystle Schultz

July 2 – Linda Ann Mitchell

July 3 – Joseph Sixbey

July 8 – Izzabell Vieira

July 16 – Ashley Kay Louise Laurence

Do you have a birthday in July? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.

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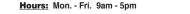
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Photo courtesy Van Buren Soccer Association

The Van Buren Soccer Association's U9 Gators Soccer Team captured 1st place for the second straight year this past spring in Van Buren Township. From left are Kenna Henderson, Nicole Dilmann, Sevanah Marecle, Abigale Emerson, Logan Ford, Annika Oygarden, Grace Cote, Lily Hickman, and Alvia Davis. Missing from the photo are Reese Page and Alivia Ehnis. The U9 Gators are coached by Mike Davis and Dan Hickman.

Harbour Club Golf Course yields four holes-in-ones since April

By Bob Mytych

Independent Sports Editor

The Harbour Club Golf Course in Van Buren Township is getting its share of hole-in-one activity since it opened for the season in April.

Four area golfers performed the coveted feat at the Par-3, 3rd hole, measuring anywhere from 97-yards for women and up to 127 yards for the men.

Sue Smith of Bladez Hair Studio used Pro Edge 15 Wood for her second ace in 25 years on May 29.

Cliff Coffman also hit his second ace of his career by hitting 9-iron from 121-yards on April 27.

Pernell Jackson scored his second holein-on with a 7-iron from 121-yards on May

Bill Livingston, 77, tallied his fifth holein-one in his 50 year career with an 8 iron from 117 yards on May 26.

3rd-Annual FMAR Golf Outing is July 14

The 3rd-Annual Friends of Michigan Animal Rescue golf outing fundraiser is set for Saturday, July 14, 1 p.m. at the Thorne Hills Golf Course in Carleton.

The cost is \$200 per team, which includes a best-ball scramble format, with a shot-gun start. All proceeds will go toward the FMAR no-kill shelter in Sumpter Township. For information or to register, call Doug at (734) 787-4581 or FMAR at (734) 461-9458.

Belleville DDA passes resolution to honor Tom **Tinsley for donations**

By Rosemary K. Otzman *Independent* Editor

At a recent meeting, the Belleville Development Authority passed a resolution honoring Tom Tinsley of Contract Welding & Fabricating of Belleville for his donations for the new sign at the entrance to the city.

Tinsley reportedly did not want any public thanks and was not present at the meeting. They were to present the framed resolution to him at his business.

DDA Coordinator Carol Thompson said Tinsley generously donated Contract Welding's metal work and installation for the gateway sign.

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Belleville Area Independent/June 28, 2012

BHS Class of 1972 seeking classmates for 40th reunion

The 40th reunion of the Belleville High School Class of 1972 will be held from 6 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, Aug. 11, at the Detroit Metro Airport Marriott, 30559 Flynn Road, Romulus. Price is \$50 each (\$100 per couple). Mail checks, payable to BHS Class of 1972, c/o Joyce Cooley, 42045 Lakeland Court, Plymouth 48170-2507.

For more information, contact Joyce Renton Cooley, 734-420-2562, or Sharon Zatirka, 724-262-4660.

BHS Class of 1954 sets 58th reunion July 27-29

The 58th reunion of the Belleville High School Class of 1954 will be held the weekend of July 27-29 at the home of Lois Mida-Zilka, 3226 S. Canton Center Road, Canton 48188.

The reunion party will be picnic style and very casual attire. Cost is \$15 per person. Camping space is available on Lois' Mida-Zilka's property.

For more information, call her at 734-397-2675 or cell 734-546-2950.

The reunion committee also contains Earline Allen Cox, David Feight, Hugh McArthur, and Ron Rounsifer.

BHS Class of 1957 sets 55-year reunion in Sept.

The 55-year reunion for the Belleville High School Class of 1957 is set for Sept. 21-22 at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites, I-94 and Belleville Road.

Friday evening's informal gathering starts at 6 p.m. Saturday social time starts at 5 p.m., followed by dinner. For additional information contact: Donna (Watkins) Gotts at 734/331-9180 or donnagotts@aol for more details.

Seeking graduates of BHS Class of 1973

Graduates of the Belleville High School Class of 1973 are being sought so their 40th reunion can be planned for sometime in 2013

Please send the names, addresses, and contact numbers for the classmates to Laura Kingsley Delsh at bellevillemi1973.40@ comcast.net or call her at 734-485-2744.

Abeer Qrunfleh graduates from The University of Toledo with M.S. degree

Abeer Qrunfleh, a resident of Belleville, graduated from The University of Toledo with a Master of Science degree in Pharmacology-Toxicology.

Qrunfleh was among more than 2,300 graduates who received their degrees at the university's Spring commencement ceremonies

Lt. Gov Calley signs new law making it a crime to lie to state, local police

Michigan Lt. Gov. Brian Calley recently signed bills making it a crime to deliberately lie or conceal facts from a state or local police officer.

Federal law prohibits lying to federal agents, but Michigan had no law protecting local or state investigations. Whether written or verbal, deceptions waste police time and resources and allow criminals to remain on the streets.

House Bills 5050 and 5051 make it a crime to conceal material facts or provide misleading statements in a criminal investigation. The bill would not apply to alleged victims of crime or prevent anyone from declining to speak with a police officer.

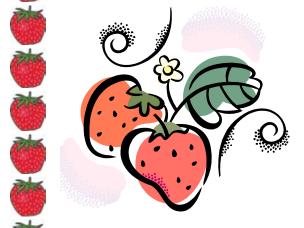
The severity of the penalty for concealing or lying about information would directly relate to the severity of the crime being investigated. "Public safety is a key priority in Michigan, and police officers need to be guaranteed factual information in criminal investigations," Calley said. "Ensuring the truth of statements in criminal investigations is simply a common-sense step to providing the best criminal justice system possible."

The bills, sponsored by state Rep. John Walsh, now are Public Acts 104 and 105.





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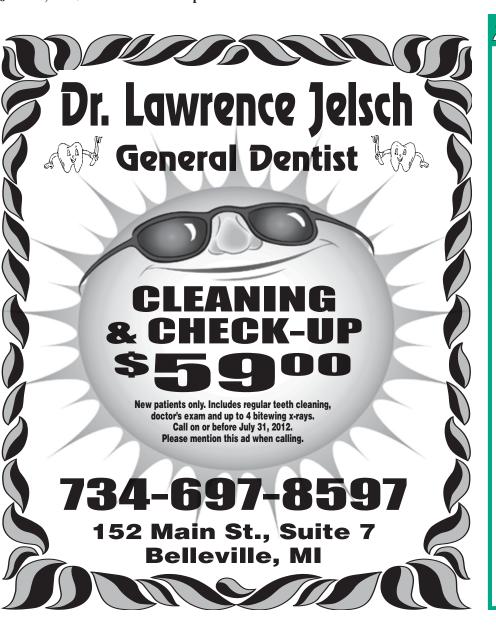
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Belleville Area Independent/June 28, 2012

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Dr. Yvonne Craiger of **Sumpter Pet** Care on Sumpter Road across from the Tin Pan Restaurant, welcomes Dr. Kristy Mannarelli to the Sumpter Pet Care Team as an associate veterinarian. Dr. Mannarelli is a 2005 graduate of the Michigan State University of Veterinary Medicine and has been practicing for seven years, specializing in small animal medicine and surgery. Her special medical interests are diabetes, wound care, and infectious disease control. Dr. Mannarelli will be available on Wednesdays and some Saturdays. Call (734) 697-4700.

Though Mother Nature tried her hardest, she wasn't able to put a damper on the spirits of over 100 fans who came out last Thursday night to enjoy the **2012 Music Lakeside** kickoff concert. Steve King & the Dittlies rocked the house, or in this case, the First United Methodist Church, for almost two hours after the storms forced the concert to its neighboring back-up venue.

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts' continues its weekly series tonight at 7 p.m. with Rock Harley as Johnny Cash. Weather permitting, BACA's **Art Colony** will be working their pallets in Horizon Park from 4-7 p.m. For the complete music schedule, visit bellevilleartscouncil.org.

Our Show Your Stripes advertising promotion continues through July 5. Simply double the size of your display ad (or larger) for four weeks or more, you'll get free color.

If you're not a current advertiser, but thinking about it, simply advertise in Belleville's real hometown newspaper for two months in color and get your third month of color for free. For details call me at (734) 699-9020.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at 699-9020 with your suggestion. There is no charge to be in this column.

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Diane Madigan for Van Buren Township Trustee



Paid for by CTE Diane Madigan 16163 Bak . Belleville, Michigan 48111

My Goals as Trustee are:

- To support businesses that will better serve the community both now and in the future.
- As an animal advocate, to represent you in preserving your rights to responsible animal ownership.
- As an independent thinker, to thoroughly and thoughtfully research every topic brought before the Board of Trustees.
- To support the hiring of additional patrol police officers and fire fighters to obtain a 2010 level of service.
- To insist on accountability and responsibility in providing
- To remain a source of support and information to the residents.
- To put the SERVICE back into Public Service.

Any questions, comments or wishes of support: please contact me at DianeMadiganVBT@aol.com or 734-699-9207.



VOTE August 7th







NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS OF SUMPTER TOWNSHIP WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

ALL ELECTORS ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE a Primary Election will be held in Sumpter Township on Tuesday, August 7, 2012.

Electors who wish to vote in the primary election must be registered no later than July 9, 2012. To register, visit any secretary of state branch office, the county clerk's office or local clerk's office.

If you wish to register at local clerk's office the hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday thru Friday.

> Sumpter Township Clerk Clarence J. Hoffman Jr. 23480 Sumpter Rd. Belleville, MI 48111-9600 734-461-6201

Publish: June 28, 2012

Things to do in the Belleville area ...

- Thursday, June 28 Free outdoor concert with Rock Harley as Johnny Cash, 7-9 p.m. at Horizon Park, High Street, Belleville. Music Lakeside sponsored by Belleville Area Council for the Arts.
- Thursday, June 28 African American Book Group meets at the library at 7 p.m. This month's book: "Warmth of Other Suns" by Isabel Wilkerson.
- Sunday, July 1 Bugles Across America, 7:15 p.m., at Veterans Memorial on High Street, Belleville, to honor the military, past and present.
- Monday, July 2 Share a cup of coffee and ideas with State Rep. Dian Slavens, D-Canton, from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Belleville Charhouse, 524 Main St., Belleville. From 5 to 6 p.m. she also will be at the Daydream Café, 47192 Michigan Ave., in Canton.

• Monday, July 2 - Cruisin' on the Bayou car show on Main Street in Belleville, 6-9

• Tuesday, July 3 - Tuesday's Cruzin the Belleville Moose, 6-9 p.m., music, food. drinks every Tuesday, 831 E. Huron River

Page 13

 Wednesday, July 4 – Classic Car Show at Diamond Back Saloon, 49345 S. I-94 Service Drive, sponsored in part by Ypsi Street Rods, 6 p.m. – dark, DJs, BBQ

• Thursday, July 5 - Free outdoor concert

with Battle of the Barbershop Quartets, 7-9 p.m., Horizon Park, High Street, Belleville. Sponsored by Belleville Area Council for the Arts. • Thursday, July 5 – The Evening Book

month's book: "The Girl in the Garden" by Kamala Nair. • Monday, July 9 – Cruisin' on the Bayou car show on Main Street in Belleville, 6-9

Group meets at the library at 7 p.m. This

• Tuesday, July 10 - Ginger Bruder presents "The Tri-Community Area in the Civil War", 5-7 p.m. at the museum, free to historical society members, \$3 to others

• Tuesday, July 10 - Tuesday's Cruzin the Belleville Moose, 6-9 p.m., music. food, drinks every Tuesday, 831 E. Huron

 Wednesday, July 11 – Classic Car Show at Diamond Back Saloon, 49345 S. I-94 Service Drive, sponsored in part by

Ypsi Street Rods, 6 p.m. – dark, DJs, BBQ • Thursday, July 12 - Free outdoor concert with the Music of Roy Orbison. Buddy Holley & the Everly Brothers, 7-9 p.m., Horizon Park, High Street, Belleville. Sponsored by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

• Friday, July 13 - Van Buren Township Concert Series: Belleville Community Band, 7 p.m., Van Buren Park, South I-94 Service Dr., \$4 per car entry fee at gate

CITY OF BELLEVILLE NOTICE OF CLOSE OF **REGISTRATION FOR** STATE PRIMARY ELECTION

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE, WAYNE COUNTY, STATE OF MICHIGAN:

Notice is hereby given that Monday, July 9, 2012 is the last day to register to vote or change your address for the above stated

If you are not currently registered to vote or have changed your address in the City you may do so at the following locations and times listed in this notice.

Qualified electors may also change their address in the following manners:

In Person:

At the City Hall Clerk's office, or at the office of any County Clerk during normal business hours.

At any Secretary of State Branch office located throughout the State during normal business hours.

At the specified agency for clients receiving services through the Family Independence Agency, the Department of Community Health, Michigan Jobs Commission and some office of the Commission for the Blind.

At the military recruitment offices for persons enlisting in the armed forces.

By Mail:

By obtaining and completing a Mail Voter Registration Application and forwarding to the Clerk's office by the close of registration deadline. Mail voter registration applications may be obtained by contacting:

Lisa Long, City Clerk (734)697-9323 ext. 7010 6 Main Street Belleville, MI 48111

Note: A person who registers to vote by mail is required to vote in person unless they have previously voted in person in the City/ Township where they live or are at least 60 years of age or are handicapped.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION:

- Applicant is at least 18 Years of age.
- Resident of Belleville for at least 30 days.
 - Citizen of the United States.

APPLICATIONS FOR ABSENTEE VOTER BALLOTS are available starting June 25, 2012 at the City Clerk's office, 6 Main Street, Belleville, MI 48111. Deadline for filing an application to receive an Absentee Ballot for the August 7, 2012, Primary Election is Saturday, August 4, 2012 from 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. at the City Clerk's office.

Lisa Long. City Clerk

Publish: June 28, 2012

Belleville City Council Tentative Agenda **Regular Meeting**

Monday, July 2 at 7:30 p.m. 1. Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of

Silence 2. Roll Call

3. Presentations & Citizens' Comment

4. Approval of Agenda

5. Approval of Minutes

6. Public Hearing

7. Introduction of Ordinances

not an official meeting notice.

8. General Business

A. RFQ's - Newspaper of Record

9. Accounts Payable and Departmental Expenditures

10-13. Officials' and Citizens' Comments

14. Action Items for Next Regularly

Scheduled Meeting.

15. Adjournment.

This is a tentative regular meeting agenda based on information which was available as of Tuesday before the meeting. Items may be added or deleted prior to the official agenda being distributed. This is

Published as a public service

gets top-notch rating

By Rosemary K. Otzman

Independent Editor

2011 fiscal year general fund budget of

\$12 million and the other special revenue

budgets was accepted by the township

Auditors from Plante & Moran said the

board at its regular meeting June 5.

Audits of the Van Buren Township

Belleville Area Independent/June 28, 2012

audits rated an "unqualified opinion" which VBT audit of \$12 million is top-notch. general fund for 2011

The auditor's letter suggested some better procedures, however. One "material weakness" was pointed out and three, lesssevere "significant deficiencies".

The auditors reported VBT general fund expenditures in 2009 to be \$13,717,000; in 2010, \$12,932,000; and in 2011, \$12,083,000. They said 70% of the general fund budget goes to public safety.

In other business at the June 5 meeting,

• Unanimously granted approval of a new Class C Liquor License with Dance-Entertainment permit for TJ's, Pub & Grub, formerly Mr. Bill's, at 41111 E. Huron River Drive. The restaurant is a family affair, run by the family who has owned the Romulus House for the last 21 years: father Samer Suleiman, son Joseph Suleiman, and sonin-law Tony Varco. They will hire about 10 people to begin with. Clerk Leon Wright said because of the rise in population, the township currently owns six liquor licenses to distribute;

• Approved an intergovernmental agreement between VBT and Wayne County concerning the Water Main and Sanitary Sewer Project on Ecorse Road between Beck and Morton Taylor roads, which is the first step in the upgrading of the Belleville/Ecorse Road intersection, a two-construction-season project starting this year. The township's share of the Water/Sewer portion is \$3.3 million from the Water and Sewer Capital Project Fund;

• Approved using \$3,000 from the annual Waste management Cultural Activities Grant toward the VBT summer concert

 Approved the reappointments of Robert Cook and Walter Rochowiak to the Water and Sewer Commission with terms to expire June 1, 2014;

• Heard Supervisor White apologize to resident John Delaney for an "inappropriate comment" made to Delaney after a recent board meeting. White said the supervisor and board members are held to higher standards;

• Heard Public Safety Director Carl McClanahan report that he is looking at an ordinance that would ban the use of K2 synthetic marijuana, also known as Spice. He said three weeks earlier a cautionary alert concerning synthetic marijuana was put up on the website. He noted other communities that have passed ordinances or are working on them and said, "I will be in the process of reviewing and constructing an emergency ordinance for the board to ban the sale in Van Buren Township";





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· Heard Diane Madigan report that there is a 24-hour, anonymous hot line for people to report synthetic drug sales in Wayne County, 734-727-7163;

• Heard Tim Szetela say the synthetic drugs can be easily modified by the producers. He urged the public to go into the stores they frequent and make it clear that customers don't want them to sell the products. Tell them, "Don't sell this crap," and vote with your dollars, said; and

· Heard Julie Aeschbacker ask the board to put the issue of National Flood Insurance Program on its agenda to make a decision. She said if communities are in the NFIP program they are protected. She said she hadn't yet received the promised LOMA (letter of map appeal) letter the township had promised to send to those getting letters from their mortgage lenders requiring flood insurance immediately. Terry Carroll, director of planning and economic development, said FEMA is changing the locations of their map centers and communities have been asked to hold off on submitting appeals. Alan Babosh also asked the board to put the flood plain issue on the agenda.

Gov. appoints Kilmark to Board of Osteopathic **Medicine and Surgery**

James A. Kilmark of 42601 Bemis Road, Belleville, has been appointed by Governor Rick Snyder to the Michigan Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery.

Catherine L. Heise of 9054 Muirland, Plymouth, also was appointed by Gov. Snyder to the Board, representing the general public.

The board oversees the practice of osteopathic doctors and is responsible for promoting and protecting the public's health, safety and welfare.

"These individuals bring unique experiences and backgrounds to the board," Snyder said. "I look forward to their work and diligence in ensuring Michigan's citizens are given proper care

Kilmark is the lead clinical physician assistant for the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Emergency Department as part of the Emergency Physicians Medical Group. He is a member of the Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants.

Kilmark earned a bachelor's degree in biomedical sciences from Grand Valley State University and a master's degree in physician assistant studies from Central Michigan University.



Van Buren Township **Police Dispatch Log**

The following are selected runs for VBT Police. For more detailed police logs, see www. bellevilleareaindependent.com.

Sunday, June 17:

- 0055 violation public health code/violation controlled substance act, 6609 Outer
- 0114 property damage accident, Van Born / Sheldon
- 0203 malicious destruction of property, 49345 S. I-94 Service Dr. 0308 - noise complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr. /
- Belleville
- 0309 assault & battery, 63 Park Estates
- 0323 noise complaint, 158 Aspen
- 0415 assault & battery, 416449 Van Born
- 0455 unauthorized driving away of auto, 3903 Westlake
- 1341 property damage accident, Belleville/Ecorse
- 1443 domestic assault, 47556 Hull Rd.
- 1547 intimidation threat, 263 S. Ponderosa Trl. 1600 - assault & battery, 46000 Lake Villa Dr.
- 1906 assault & battery, 8839 Hardwood Dr.
- 2107 shots fired, Pond Ridge Dr./Winding Pond
- 2109 PPO violation, 46145 Village Green Ln.
- 2139 fight, 9826 Jackson St.
- 2218 suspicious person, Victory Park
- 2231 trespassing, 23 Oak Blvd.

Monday, June 18:

- 1057 property damage accident, Belleville/N. I-94 Service Dr.
- 1547 suspicious situation, 9555 Haggerty, WCCCD
- 1558 fraud, Meijer
- 1648 fraud, 9645 Belleville
- 1703 narcotics crime, 46425 Tyler Rd.
- 1701 assault & battery, 43711 N. Timberview Dr 1802 - property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr./Oak Lane
- 1906 narcotics crime, 48621 S. I-94 Service Dr.
- 1917 retail fraud, Meijer
- 1924 larceny, 7130 Sadie Ln.
- 2012 disorderly conduct, Hidden Cove pool
- 2016 violation public health code/violation controlled substance act, 6060 Vernon St. 2100 - assault & battery, 9805 Lancaster Dr.
- 2153 larceny, 6418 Western St.
- 2224 assault & battery, 48731 Denton Rd.
- 2318 disturbance, Kirkridge

Tuesday, June 19:

- 0052 vehicle repossession, 8016 Kirkridge
- 0116 noise complaint, Farm/Bog 0122 private property accident, Meijer
- 0126 juvenile complaint, 10930 Lighthouse Dr.
- 0307 noise complaint, 10930 Lighthouse Dr.
- 0432 malicious destruction of property, 1153

Village Grove

- 0852 reckless driving, Bellepointe Estates 0907 - hospice, 45257 Robson Rd.
- 0932 property damage accident, Elwell/Bemis
- 1240 juvenile complaint, 11875 Quirk Rd.
- 1336 mental, 605 W. Columbia Ave.
- 1338 noise complaint, 7976 Kirkridge Park Dr.
- 1419 missing person, 7202 Anna Dr.
- 1648 larceny, Van Buren Park
- 2042 retail fraud, Walmart 2048 - ATV/ORV complaint, 49835 Cross St.
- $2106-trespassing,\,15400\;Sumpter$
- $2223-disorderly\ conduct, 42901\ Tyler\ Rd.$ 2315 - harassment call, 44401 S. I-94 Service Dr.

Wednesday, June 20:

- 0006 fireworks, 9101 Parkwood Dr.
- 0311 assault & battery, 9814 Jackson St. 0450 - larceny, 45525 N. I-94 Service Dr.
- 0934 unauthorized driving away of auto, 9614 Rolan Meadows Dr.
- unauthorized driving away of auto, 41775 1156 - property damage accident, Belleville/N.
- I-94 Service Dr. 1222 – PPO violation, 8974 Parkwood
- 1401 breaking & entering, 9708 Jackson St. 1508 juvenile complaint, Meijer
- 1521 larceny, 7704 Kirkridge Park Dr.
- 1522 malicious destruction of property, 8851 Parkwood Dr.

- 1644 retail fraud, Kmart
- 1707 narcotics crime, 46425 Tyler
- 1943 property damage accident, 11028 Van Buren St.
- 2158 fireworks, 47616 North Shore Dr.
- 2216 sexual assault, 42 Birch Dr.

Thursday, June 21:

- 0058 disorderly conduct, 146 Cherry
- 0126 disturbance, 11791 Meadows Cir.
- 0745 assault & battery, 46425 Tyler Rd., VBT
- 0905 domestic assault, 8808 Parkwood Dr.
- 1111 personal injury accident, median I-94 / Morton Taylor
- 1216 malicious destruction of property, DNR
- 1519 disorderly conduct, Van Buren Park beach
- 1710 intimidation threat, 10880 Lighthouse Dr.
- 1837 harassment call, 6418 Western St.
- 1846 property damage accident, Rawsonville / Martz
- 1853 fraud, Kmart
- 1931 noise complaint, 6510 Stoneybrook Ct.
- 1953 fireworks, 41567 S. Bellridge Dr.
- 2009 larceny, 6007 Justine St.
- 2121 larceny, 51207 Sylvia Dr.
- 2306 noise complaint, 10702 Oak Ln. Friday, June 22:

- 0056 juvenile complaint, 46070 Lake Villa Dr. 0128 - disturbance, 7981 Belleville Rd.
- 0950 private property accident, 10760 Belleville
- 1105 private property accident, Meijer
- 1239 larceny, 41449 Van Born 1352 property damage accident, Van Born /
- Belleville
- 1439 domestic violence, 5880 Winchester St.
- 1449 trespassing, Walmart
- 1526 property damage accident, Belleville/N.
- I-94 Service Dr. 1547 - personal injury accident, N. I-94 Service
- Dr. / Belleville 1612 - intimidation threat, 14205 Westlake Circle
- 1634 private property accident, 46425 Tyler Rd.
- 1639 reckless driving, Savage/Martinsville
- 1932 larceny, 87 Rawsonville
- 2000 trespassing, 89 Park Estates
- 2028 assault & battery, Walmart
- 2339 noise complaint, 49011 S. I-94 Service Dr.

Saturday, June 23:

- 0017 noise complaint, 39 Maple
- 0017 noise complaint, Revere Dr./Charter Club
- 0139 noise complaint, 9086 Parkwood Dr. 0144 - larceny, 46000 Lake Villa Dr.
- 0504 noise complaint, 3375 E. Michigan Ave. 0506 – assault & battery, 40036 Edison Lake Rd.
- 0827 property damage accident, WB I-94 / Rawsonville
- 0839 personal injury accident, WB I-94 / Rawsonville
- 1340 fraud, 10950 Belleville Rd.
- 1520 intimidation threat, 44141 Ecorse Rd.
- 1619 malicious destruction of property, 46425 Tyler Rd.
- 1618 intimidation threat, 9111 Parkwood Dr.
- 1832 disorderly conduct, 765 E. Huron River Dr.
- 1835 disturbance, S. Ponderosa Trl./Aspen Ln. 1847 – juvenile complaint, 46020 Lake Villa Dr.
- 1945 disturbance, 11175 Haggerty
- 2210 assault & battery, 10940 Belleville 2212 - fireworks, Stanley Rd./North Shore Dr.
- 2222 fireworks, 41511 Tompkins St.
- 2237 mental, 9111 Parkwood Dr. 2308 - loud party complaint, 46901 Lauren Ct.
- 2326 noise complaint, 41790 Bemis
- 2335 noise complaint, 48821 Denton
- 2359 trespassing, 10930 Lighthouse Dr.

Also on this log are 271 traffic stops, 53 of which were on the freeways: I-94 and I-275.

Dispatch Log

Belleville Police

Sunday, June 17: 0000 - E-911 hangup/investigation, 62 Menlo Pk.

- 0058 assist fire dept., 53 Loza Lane
- 0134 suspicious situation, Main/Fourth 0300 - assist citizen, N. Liberty/Main 1333 - lost property, 248 Main
- 1552 vehicle lockout, Charles/Third
- 1603 civil matter, 152 S. Edgemont Ave.
- 1637 civil matter, 54 Biggs Ave.

- 1742 animal complaint, 811 Estrada
- 1752 suspicious vehicle, 287 S. Industrial Pk.
- 1808 domestic assault, 107 Potter Dr.
- 1821 assist citizen, 31 E. HuronRiver Dr.
- 2050 civil matter, 65 Menlo Park Dr.
- 2112 hospice, 32 Menlo Park Dr.
- 2300 E-911 hangup/investigation, 492 Robbe St.
- 2347 noise complaint, 311 E. Huron River Dr.

Monday, June 18:

- 0555 assist fire dept., 14 Carmell
- 0852 agency assist, 57 Loza Lane
- 1006 assist fire dept., 6 Main St.
- 1046 assist citizen, 105 Wexford Ave.
- 1129 assist citizen, 6 Main St.
- 1217 assist fire dept., 279 Church St.
- 1257 background investigation, 6 Main St.
- 1402 private property accident, BHS
- 1439 larceny, 351 High St.
- 1504 odor investigation, 230 W. Columbia Ave.
- 1602 vehicle lockout, 409 W. Columbia Ave.
- 1825 assist fire dept., 200 Henry
- 1931 found property, 6 Main St.
- 2037 vehicle repossession, 2 Menlo Park

Tuesday, June 19:

- 0049 juvenile complaint, Main/Fifth
- 0449 malicious destruction of property, 324
- 0600 malicious destruction of property, S. Aberdeen Ct./Victorian Lane
- 1327 mental, 605 W. Columbia Ave. 1329 - E-911 cellular, 151 Clarence St.
- 1417 background investigation, 35 Loza Lane
- 1522 found property, 6 Main St. 1531 - assist citizen, BHS
- 1615 civil matter, 81 W. Wabash Ave. 1708 - malicious destruction of property, 81 W.
- Wabash Ave. 1857 - suspicious situation, Secretary of State
- 1933 suspicious person, 575 Sumpter Rd. 2255 - harassment call, 35 Loza Lane

Wednesday, June 20:

- 0106 intrusion alarm, 496 Main St.
- 1157 larceny, 279 Church St. 1538 - holdup alarm, 25 Owen
- 1541 background investigation, 6 Main
- 1718 larceny, 423 Victorian Lane 1721 - suspicious situation, 42 S. Edgemont
- 2145 noise complaint, 86 Carmell

2327 - shots fired, 23 Loza Lane Thursday, June 21:

- 0926 E-911 hangup/investigation, 575 Sumpter, Co-op apts.
- 1428 assist fire dept., W. Davis/South St. 1432 - abandoned auto, 241 Church St.
- 1445 property damage accident, Fourth/Main

2337 - agency assist, 200 Henry St.

- Friday, June 22:
- 0823 assist fire dept., 17 Menlo Park Dr. 0950 - E-911 cellular, 201 Third St.
- 1021 assist fire dept., 41 Loza Lane 1138 - larceny, 383 Church St.
- 1321 suspicious person, 28 Carmell St.
- 1404 follow-up, 423 Victorian Lane
- 1642 assist citizen, Savage/Martinsville 1714 - civil matter, 161 Church
- 2038 indecent exposure, Victory Park 2151 - intimidation threat, 219 Belle Villa Blvd.
- 2233 E-911 hangup/investigation, lat/long 2230 - property damage accident, High/Main

2311 - suspicious situation, 589 E. Thornhill Ct. Saturday, June 23:

- $0042-motorist\ assist,\ Savage/Victorian\ Lane$ 0323 - intimidation threat, 13 Loza Lane
- 0329 suspicious person, 506 Harbour Pointe Dr. 0851 - assist fire dept., 240 N. Liberty St. 1012 - private property accident, 6 Main St.
- 1245 child abuse, 84 Carmell St.
- 1425 suspicious person, Industrial Dr. 1716 - all other traffic, Fourth/Liberty 1748 - welfare check, Hillside/Denton
- 1752 neighbor trouble, 84 Carmell St. 1941 - P.b.t. alcohol, 6 Main St.
- 2051 assist fire dept., 30 Carmell St. 2156 - private property accident, 365 Harbour
- 2232 assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia,
- Columbia Court Also on this week's log are 12 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, June 17:

- 0030 suspicious vehicle, 46000 bl. Kozma Rd.
- 0122 fire dept. assist, Rustic Lane
- 1721 larceny, 47000 bl. Arkona Rd.
- 1932 family trouble, Knollwood

Monday, June 18:

- 0847 civil dispute, Montana
- 1410 property damage accident, 10000 bl.
- 1458 citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1954 fire dept. assist, Greenmeadow

2043 - animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

- Tuesday, June 19:
- 0934 property damage accident, Elwell/Bemis
- 1036 well-being check, 21000 bl. Karr Rd.
- 1259 fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Judd Rd.
- 1753 animal complaint, 48000 bl. Willis Rd. 1840 – assault, Rustic Lane
- 2105 suspicious person, Country Club Blvd.
- Waltz
- 0237 ordinance violation, 24000 bl. Sherwood
- 0653 warrant arrest, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.

- 1704 animal complaint, Willow/Sumpter

2329 - malicious destruction of property, 19000 bl.

Friday, June 22:

- 0841 civil dispute, California
- 1453 civil dispute, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
- 1651 off road vehicle complaint, Martinsville /
- 1756 suspicious vehicle, Sumpter/Willis
- 0134 suspicious person, Harris/Sumpter 0719 - animal complaint, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.

1517 - suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Bohn Rd.

- warrant arrest, 26000 bl. Elwell
- 1713 fraud report, Rustic Lane
- 1906 civil dispute, Rustic Lane
- 2325 neighbor dispute, 20000 bl. Sherwood 2344 fire dept. assist, 51000 bl. Arkona
- Saturday, June 23:
- 0036 neighbor dispute, 20000 bl. Sherwood

- 1947 larceny, 11000 bl. Rawsonville Rd. 2033 – civil dispute, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.
- 1002 civil standby, Timberlane
- 1125 animal complaint, 6400 bl. Oakville Waltz 1138 - animal complaint, 22000 bl. Martinsville
- 1537 civil dispute, Rustic Lane
- 1908 fight, Sherwood/Wear
- Wednesday, June 20: 0143 - suspicious person, Rawsonville/Oakville
- 0754 malicious destruction of property,
- 1038 off road vehicle complaint

- Thursday, June 21:
- 1456 malicious destruction of property, 19000 bl. Elwell Rd.
- 1924 animal complaint, Sherwood/Wear
- 1544 fire dept. assist, 28000 bl. Karr Rd.
- 1805 civil dispute, California

- Also on this week's log are 17 follow-up
- investigations, 31 miscellaneous details, 141 patrol checks, and 72 traffic stops.

- 0246 fireworks complaint, 10000 bl. Rawsonville 1641 - accidental damage report, 18000 bl. Morton
- 1825 warrant arrest, out of township
- 2146 health & safety violation, 46000 bl. Willis
- 2357 suspicious incident, 43000 bl. Willis
- 0029 criminal sexual assault investigation, Rustic

- 0334 suspicious vehicle, 19000 bl. Sharon Ct.
- 1339 fireworks complaint, 28000 bl. Martinsville
- Rawsonville
- 1844 shots fired investigation, 22000 bl. Sumpter
- 0857 civil standby, California
- 1121 animal complaint, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
- 1306 mental health commitment, 43000 bl. Wear
- 2226 family trouble, 43000 bl. Dunn Rd.
- 0201 abandoned vehicle, 11000 bl. Rawsonville
- 1027 alarm, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 1922 fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Haggerty 2032 - animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 0906 fire dept. assist, Nevada 0953 - suspicious incident, 19000 bl. Karr Rd.
- 1333 malicious destruction of property, 49000 bl.
 - 1651 alarm, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.
- 2151 citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
- 0034 found property, 24000 bl. Sherwood

A tribute to my aunt on her 99th birthday

By Lee Smith

Reprinted with permission from The Tecumseh Herald

Editor's Note: Aunt Virg is the last Chudzinski from her generation. Local Chudzinskis requested the reprint of this tribute to their special ancestor. Lee Smith is a former Van Buren Township resident and wrote for the Belleville Enterprise for many years.

We went to a birthday party Sunday. It was for my Dad's baby sister ... my Aunt Virg. She was 99 years old and still "with

Since we rarely see her, we were amazed when she called BG by name. She knew

She keeps up with the news, especially the politics on TV, even though she gets upset at both parties. She gets around without a

Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, June 28 Van Buren Township Cultural Advisory Committee, 11 a.m.
- Monday, July 2 Van Buren Township Board of Trustees work/study, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 3 Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, July 9 Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., Administration Building
- Tuesday, July 10 Van Buren Township LDFA, 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 11 Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30
- Thursday, July 12 Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- Monday, July 16 Van Buren Township Board of Trustees work/study,
- 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education work/study, 7 p.m., Administration Building. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 17 Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 18 South Huron Valley Utility Authority, 10 a.m., Brownstown Township Hall. Also, Van Buren Township Planning Staff Review, 1-4 p.m. Also, VBT Public Safety Committee at Fire Station 2 at 5:30 p.m. Also, VBT Environmental Commission, 7 p.m.

Columbia Court

Apartments

275 W. Columbia • Belleville Accepting Applications for Individuals 62 & Older

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Affordable Housing • Sec 8-202

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walker except for periods of long standing. She is in good health and lives with her daughter and son-in-law, Mary Claire and Rudy in Indiana; recently of Alanson. She has been a widow for 11 years.

I learned that in her early 90s she still gardened and especially loved pulling weeds. She also enjoyed table games with whomever's family she was standing. One son-in-law, Bud, told me, very discreetly, she likes to cheat. "And I learned early on that she was the boss," he added.

At their 67th wedding anniversary, she and Uncle Harold had 38 grandchildren and 66 great-grandchildren.

I ran around Ron's bowling lanes like a latter-day Brenda Starr, trying to find what those stats were these 26 years later. I found it hard getting answers. Someone should have compiled the numbers in that

I also tried counting her progeny and nieces and nephews attending, but with people moving around so much and some of them bowling, I had a hard time. I am estimating about 140.

As for the bowling – the party was held at the new Glass Bowl Lanes in Toledo. Its owner, my cousin Ron, reserved half of the facility for his mom's special day. The lanes were open to anyone, gratis, but it was the small fry and younger set who used the bumper lanes; the rest of us just talked as if there were no tomorrow.

Because we became neighbors prior to my teens, I got to know Aunt Virg better than any of my dad's other siblings. It was

during the two years she, Uncle Harold and their seven kids lived next door, renting our grocery store and the attached living quarters.

There we were, my four brothers and I, a dozen kids with kindred genes and parents who expected us to love one another. Our lawns connected and we immediately drew up boundary lines - visible only in our mean little heads.

My mom often marveled at how well we got along. We allowed her to live her fantasy; my brothers only admitting to their pranks in later years. It was then she learned how often they plotted to "off" Jerome - he of the two-wheeler. The only one so blessed, he took great joy in flaunting his prize possession, never allowing any of us

My brothers would sit upstairs behind an open window with BB guns and shoot straight pins at him when he had the brazenness to use our horseshoe drive.

Neither did our parents know about the rock fights (pebbles, actually). They'd be generated when some snotty cousin would "cross our line" and squeal: "I'M STANDING ON YOUR PROPERTY. HA-HA-HA!" Then the missiles would fly. Fortunately, as with the BB gun, no one qualifies as a marksman.

Most of the time we got along, playing baseball and other games and sharing Aunt Virg's and my mom's good cooking.

In my mind's eye, I still see her standing in front of the hot-air register in the kitchen, always with a cup of coffee. Skinny as a

twig, she was always cold. So, often the oven was on, as well, making warmth a twofold purpose – usually for baking some goody. She call my mom to "Come on over and try my new cake" or whatever it was she'd made.

In contrast, my mom was not thin. She often bewailed the injustice of it: "Virg eats all that rich food and I gain. When I diet, she loses." But she loved having her sister-in-law next door and sharing her adventurous spirit, taking off with her for new places: Toledo being the magnet at the time.

The bountiful buffet – dishes supplied by the daughters Barb, Kay and Patty, as well as the cousins - included 99 cupcakes with 99 lighted candles for Aunt V. to blow out. I thought it was asking a lot, but, by golly, she was game for it and finished the job.

An especially sweet comment was emailed from her son-in-law Bud, who was filling in the info I needed. He said, "She was forever doing things for people. Everyone should have given her thank you cards instead of birthday cards for all she's

When Aunt Virg reads this column (I had to swear I'd send it) those remarks should be considered a champagne toast for her 99th year on earth. She is loved.

THE BOTTOM LINE: A woman celebrating her 100th birthday was asked if she could walk much these days. "Why sure," she said. "In fact, I can walk much better than I could 100 years ago."









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5 FAMILY SALE - 758 W. Huron River Dr., June 28-29, 9-5 p.m. Boy's, Girls & Women's clothes, Shoes, Purses, Toys, Dishes, Glassware. Something for Everyone. 6/28

BIG BIG SALE - 39099 CHASE RD. off Hannan Rd. June 28-30, 10-6 p.m. Lots of tools & Men's Stuff, misc.

Multi Family - 22000 Bohn Rd., S.W. of Sumpter & Judd Rds. June 28-30, 9-?. Dolls, Baby clothes, Tools, Furniture, Household & Garage items.

40449 WILLIS Rd. off Clark Rd. July 5-6, 9-3 p.m. 24' above ground swimming pool, Lots of Party Lite, Dreamsicles, Ratchet straps, Hot Sauce collection. 7/05

LARGE 5 FAMILY SALE - 45831 Harris off Sumpter Rd. June 28-30, 9-6 p.m. Appliances, Furniture, Household items, Puzzles, Toys, Patio sets, Lots of Treasures.

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FOUND

CALICO LOOKING CAT. Found in Sumpter, Judd, Fenster, Bontekoe area. (313) 384-0877

ENAMEL BANGLE BRACELET found in Van Buren Park week of June 9th. (734) 697-9446

FOUND - WOMAN'S WATCH. June 21 at Meijer's gas station. Call to identify. (734) 697-2750

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Mich. State Police seek minivan in U.S. 23 crash that killed 2, hurt 5

A rollover crash on U.S. 23 in Pittsfield Township Friday that killed two siblings and injured five other people was a hit-and-run, according to police.

Authorities are seeking a light gray or silver minivan, possibly a Honda Odyssey with a paper license plate in the back window.

The van would probably have driver's side damage, said Lt. Mike Shaw, a spokesman for the Detroit Michigan State Police Post.

The young people killed were Jordan Siegel, 14, and Ashley Siegel, 12. Their step-mother, Dawn Siegel, who was driving, was injured, along with her other children and step-children: Chris and Brooklyn Siegel, Madison Owens and Erica Fox. All five were in stable condition late Friday. The Siegel family is from Novi.

The accident occurred at 2:53 p.m., when police said witnesses reported Siegel's Ford Expedition was driving in the left-hand lane of southbound U.S. 23 when she was cut off by another vehicle. Siegel tried to avoid the car by swerving onto the median when she lost control, according to police.

Joyce Williams, a spokeswoman for Huron Valley Ambulance, said Pittsfield Township Police and Fire and MSP responded, along with five paramedic units and a supervisor from HVA. Jordan and Ashley were pronounced dead at the scene.

Williams reported one ambulance transported one critical patient to the University of Michigan Health System. Also, another ambulance transported one stable child who had been in a car seat and one unstable patient to U-M. Another ambulance transported two unstable patients to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor.

The Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department closed southbound US 23 at Michigan Ave. for several hours for an accident investigation.

Police are asking anyone with information on the vehicle or the crash to contact the Michigan State Police Brighton Post at 810-227-1051.

Witnesses tell police the minivan driver may be an Arabic woman about 40 years old. The minivan had continued southbound on US 23 after the crash.

Keystone teacher earns excellence award from Nat'l Heritage Academies

Charter school operator, National Heritage Academies (NHA), announced Keystone Academy third-grade teacher Mindy DeJarnett was one of just four teachers chosen from NHA's 71 schools to receive the 2012 Excellence in Teaching Award.

The award recognizes the accomplishments of individual teachers across the organization's 71 charter schools.

To choose the four top-performing teachers, NHA reviewed 3,000 teachers against a set of specific quantitative and qualitative criteria, including student test scores and achievement data, parent satisfaction surveys, teacher evaluations and classroom observations.

Based on their ranking among the criteria, 60 finalists were selected in four categories – grades K-1, 2-5, 6-8 and co-curricular specialists. Of those 60 finalists, one winner was chosen in each category, with DeJarnett selected in the 2-5 category.

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Page 19

Belleville team will walk 60 miles to earn funds to fight breast cancer

Mothers. Uncles. Friends. Daughters. The list of those affected by breast cancer goes on and on.

For Van Buren Township residents Marie Young and Sue Wade, their mothers are why they are lacing up their shoes to show

their never-ending support in the fight to end breast cancer.

Marie's mother is a 28-year breast cancer survivor while Sue lost her mother to breast cancer 20 years ago. Marie and Sue have teamed up to form the Strider Perky Puppies, the official 3-Day Team of the BBC Striders.

The BBC Striders is a group of Belleville area runners and walkers of all ages and abilities with a common interest

of Belleville the past seven years. For the past four years, 2008 thru 2011,

also been very active in the fight against

cancer, participating in the Relay for Life

the Striders team was the top fundraising team at the Belleville Relay. This year, the Striders are focusing their efforts on the fight against breast cancer.

The Strider Perky Puppies are representing the BBC Striders, walking 60 miles over the course of three days to help erase breast cancer forever. While not everyone in the club is able to complete the 60-mile walk, they are with Marie and Sue in spirit every step of the way and will be out there cheering them on.

The Striders will also support them in their training and their fundraising efforts. This is truly a *Strider* team effort.

Marie and Sue have embarked on a physical and emotional journey in preparing for the 2012 Susan G. Komen Michigan 3-Day. Like other 3-Day® participants, they understand that breast cancer knows no boundaries, so committing to raising \$2,300 each and walking 60 miles in three days is an important step in ridding the world of the disease.

The Susan G. Komen Michigan 3-Day starts on Friday morning, Aug. 17 and ends with the closing ceremony on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 19. Walkers cover about 20 miles a day with hundreds of volunteer crew members supporting the walkers through the three-day journey.

About 425,000 women around the world died of breast cancer in 2010. To learn more about Marie's and Sue's reasons for taking on this challenge and to help the Strider Perky Puppies reach their goal of a world without breast cancer by making a donation to their team, visit http://www. the3day.org/goto/BBCStriders. To learn how to participate or volunteer with the Susan G. Komen 3-Day™, visit The3Day. org or call 800-996-3DAY.

Erich Szymanski graduates from Marine Corps engineer course

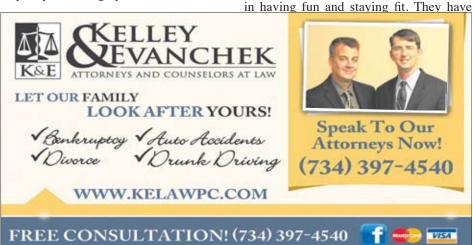
Marine Corps Pfc. Erich R. Szymanski. son of Melissa Szymanski of Belleville and Brian Szymanski of Ecorse, recently graduated from the Marine Corps Basic Combat Engineer Course at Marine Corps Engineer School, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, NC.

During the five-week course, Szymanski received instruction in the fundamentals of engineering support for combat units, including the procedures for building and repairing bridges, roads and field fortifications. Szymanski also received training on demolition concepts, land mine warfare and camouflage techniques.

Szymanski is a 2011 graduate of Southgate Anderson High School and joined the Marine Corps in September 2011.









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